

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to the Director, Zoological Survey of India for providing necessary

facilities to carry out this work.

## REFERENCES

- CROWSON, R.A. (1955): The natural classification of the families of Coleoptera. Nathaniel Lloyd & Co., London.
- PAL, T.K. (in press): Inoepilidae and Elacatidae (Coleoptera : Heteromera) from Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Rec. zool. Surv. India*. 91 (3-4).
- PAL, T.K. & DUTTA, A.K. (1982): Inoepilidae (Coleoptera) from Andaman Islands, India, *Rec. zool. Surv. India* 79: 469-473.
- SENGUPTA, T., PAL, T.K. & MUKHOPADHYAY, P. (1977): On the family Inoepilidae (Coleoptera) from India. *Oriental Ins.* 11 (3): 395-407.
- SINGH, R.L. (ed.) (1989): India - A Regional Geography. National Geographical Society of India, Varanasi, Reprinted.

FIRST RECORD OF GENUS *APROCEROS* MALAISE  
(HYMENOPTERA, SYMPHYTA: ARGIDAE) FROM INDIA,  
WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES<sup>1</sup>

MALKIAT S. SAINI AND AMARINDER S. THIND<sup>2</sup>  
(With six text-figures)

A new species of *Aproceros*, i.e. *A. sikkimensis* sp. nov. has been described and illustrated. This represents the first record of this genus from India. So far only four species of this genus are known.

## INTRODUCTION

Erected by Malaise (1931), the genus *Aproceros* is represented by only four species so far. Except the type species *Aproceros umbricola* from Siberia (Vladivostok), all the other species are known from Japan. The genus has the following characters: head broad and short, very strongly narrowed behind eyes (Fig. 4); flagellum in the female cylindrical, as long as the width of head; clypeus almost truncate (Fig. 5); inner margin of eyes almost parallel and distance between them nearly twice as long as the length of one eye; projection of the cheeks twice as long as the diameter of ocellus; forewing (Fig. 2) without intercostal crossvein and its radial field is open at the end, hindwing with two closed middle cells (Fig. 3). This is the first report of *Aproceros* from India. The description of *Aproceros sikkimensis* sp. nov.

is also given.

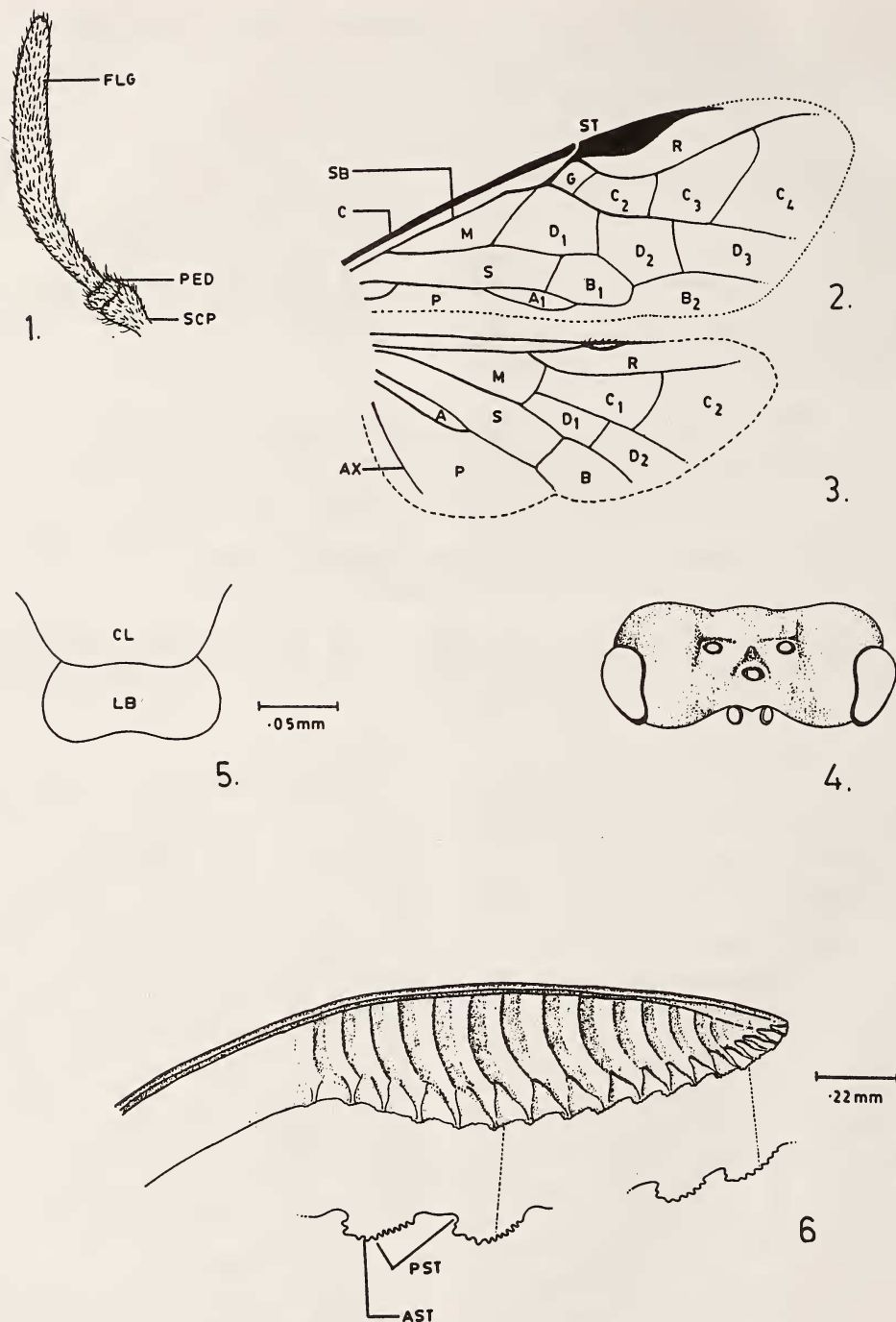
*Abbreviations used:* A = Anal cell, AST = Anterior subbasal tooth, Ax = Axillus vein, B = Brachial cell, C = Costa, C1...4 = Cubital cells, CL = Clypeus, CN = Cenchri, D = Discoidal cell, EL = Eye length, FLG = Flagellum, IATS = Inner apical tibial spur, IDMO = Interocular distance at the level of median ocellus, LB = Labrum, LID = Lower interocular distance, M = Median cell, MB = Metabasitarus, OATS = Outer apical tibial spur, OCL = Ocello-occipital line, OOL = Oculo-ocellar line, P = Posterior cell, PED = Pedicel, POL = Postocellar line, PST = Posterior subbasal tooth, R = Radial cell, S = Submedian cell, SB = Subcosta, SCP = Scape, St = Stigma.

*Aproceros sikkimensis* sp. nov. Figs. 1-6.

FEMALE: Colour: Body black, maxillary and labial palpi brown; all legs except outer sides of all coxae, basal halves of pro- and mesofemora yellow; wings subhyaline; costa,

<sup>1</sup>Accepted June 1991

<sup>2</sup>Dept. of Zoology, Punjabi University, Patiala 147 002.



Figs. 1-6. *Aproceros sikkimensis* sp. nov. For abbreviations, see text.  
 1. Antenna, 2. Forewing, 3. Hindwing, 4. Antero-dorsal view of head, 5. Clypeus and labrum, 6. Lancet.

subcosta, stigma and venation brown.

Length 6 mm. Antenna (Fig. 1) equal to head width; scape as long as its apical thickness, pedicel shorter, much broader than long, flagellum round, sickle-shaped and its maximum thickness is equal to the apical thickness of scape; clypeus (Fig. 5) shallowly emarginated, broader than long in ratio 2:1; labrum shallowly emarginated with deflexed anterior margin, broader than long in ratio 2 : 1; malar space quite conspicuous, twice the diameter of median ocellus; supraclypeal furrow present; supraclypeal area moderately raised with a sharp median carina; lower margin of eyes at the level of antennal sockets; LID : IDMO : EL = 4 : 4.2 : 2; eyes slightly converging below; distance between lower margin of eyes is 2.2 x length of one eye; head without postgenal carina; frontal area roundly raised above the level of eyes; supra-antennal tubercle absent; median fovea absent and instead a blunt carina is present which is continuous with a supraclypeal carina; an area in front of median ocellus is distinctly roundly raised; supraorbital line at the level of lateral ocelli; circum-, inter- and postocellar furrows present; lateral furrows in the form of weak depressions; postocellar area subconvex with a median longitudinal depression, broader than long in the ratio of 5 : 2; OOL : POL : OCL = 1.4 : 1 : 0.8; head narrowing behind eyes; mesoscutellum sunken and well below the level of mesonotum, subconvex bounded by blunt lateral carina meeting at a tip; metascutellum flat above, sunken and well below

the level of metanotum; cenchri fused along the middle line; mesepisternum obtusely raised without carina or acute apex; metabasitarsus longer than three following segments combined; tarsal claws simple.

IATS : MB: OATS = 1 : 3.3 : 1.3.

Lancet (Fig. 6) with 17 serrulae; head (Fig. 4) shown in antero-dorsal view.

Sculpture: Head not punctured, postero-lateral margins of mesonotum, lateral margins of mesonotal middle lobe and lateral edges of mesoscutellum with distinct large punctures; rest of the body almost not punctured, polished.

Pubescence: Body scatteredly covered with silvery pubescence.

MALE: Not found.

**Holotype:** Female, Sikkim: Chung thung-2000 m, 15 May 1987. (Regd. No. 1A/RIT). No paratypes.

**Distribution:** INDIA : Sikkim.

**Diagnosis:** The species is characterised by its black body and yellow legs except on outer sides of all coxae, basal half of pro- and mesofemora.

**Etymology:** The species is named after Indian state in which the collection locality falls.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to Dr D.R. Smith, of USNM Washington for confirming the generic position of this species. Financial assistance provided by the CSIR New Delhi is also gratefully acknowledged.

#### REFERENCES

MALAISE, R. (1931): Blattwespen aus Vladivostok and anderen Teilen Ostasiens. *Ent. Tidsk, Stockholm*,

52: 97-159, 23 figs.